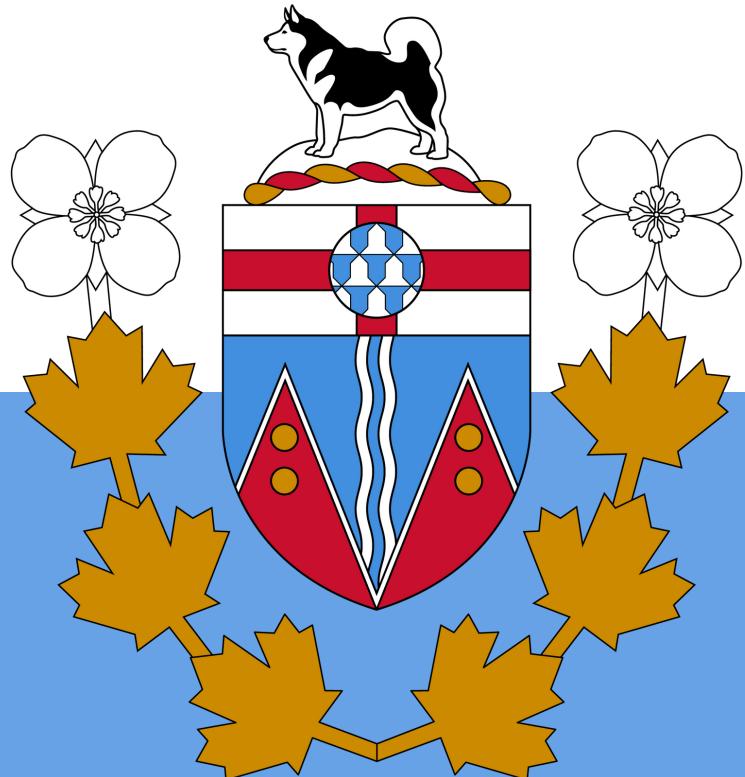


# COMMISSIONER OF YUKON

## ANNUAL REPORT

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April 1, 2020 to  
March 31, 2021

# Report produced by the Office of the Commissioner of Yukon

JUNE 2021



Commissioner of Yukon  
English

Nihänjit jëje cho nädhät  
Hän

Dazhän Kèyea däw Kwänje  
Southern Tutchone

Gamin gūdich dege Yukon ts'q  
Kaska

A government spokesperson for Yukon

Uhahki Dun Cho Yukon Government  
Northern Tutchone  
Big Chief of the Yukon Government

Government ndoo chit nilii  
Gwich'in

A Government Spokesperson for Yukon

Yukon Gamman Sháade Háni  
Tlingit  
Head of Yukon Government

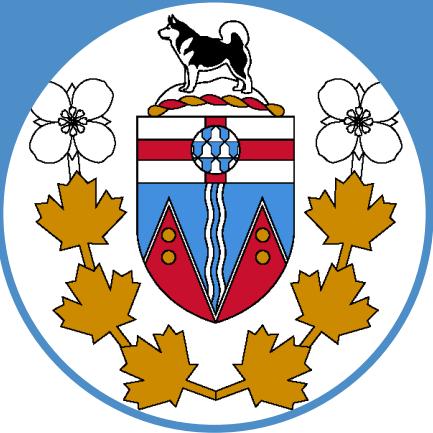
Commissaire du Yukon  
French

# Commissioner's Remarks



Receiving the first poppy

October 30, 2020



Dear Yukoners,

It is my pleasure to present the second Annual Report of the Commissioner of Yukon to illustrate the events and activities that took place between April 1, 2020 and March 31, 2021, and what a year it was! COVID-19 really put a halt to a lot of our usual happenings and sometimes forced us to re-evaluate how we do things. For our office, it was a time of reorganizing our paper and digital filing system, going through our archives, and updating our procedure manual. All things that needed to be done but were often left on the corner of our desks. We were also busy launching new programs and awards. More information on these on pages 11 to 13 of this report.

I would like to thank all Yukoners and organizations for their innovation and creativity in these unprecedented times. Yukon is really a great place to live, work and play!

Enjoy this report and do not hesitate to contact my office for any questions. You can also visit our website and Facebook page.

Yours truly,  
Angélique Bernard  
Commissioner of Yukon

# Some interesting facts from the Office of the Commissioner of Yukon

## Facebook posts

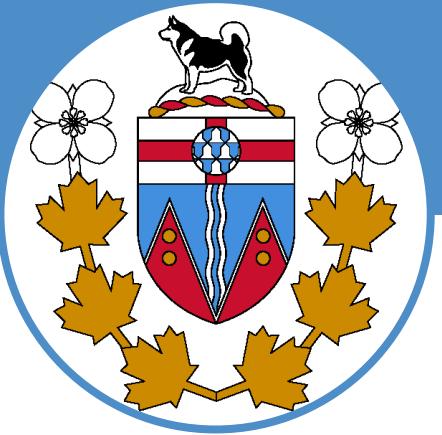
There has been an increase in followers of the Office of the Commissioner of Yukon's Facebook page from 712 to 1,144 and we have some regular followers who interact with the posts online. Our Facebook posts went from 3 to 5 a week to 2 to 3 a day. And we have developed a daily posting schedule that aligns with the Commissioner's four pillars (Family, Education, Creativity and Civic Pride).

## Throughout the year, Commissioner Bernard:

- gave 25 speeches and congratulatory messages, mainly online;
- gave 20 interviews to English and French media;
- attended 97 events, meetings and get-togethers, mainly online;
- read 20 French and English books online for Christmas Storytime (December 14 to 24, 2020);
- launched the Guest Reader Program on February 1 and as of March 31, 32 stories in English and in French had been posted on the Commissioner's Facebook page;
- gave a few tours of Taylor House to high school groups, while respecting COVID-19 protocols;
- attended the Remembrance Day Ceremonies in Carcross;
- organized a Virtual Levee on January 1;
- presented 10 Orders of Yukon, 12 Governor General's Academic Medals, and 4 Outstanding Youth Achievement Awards;
- took part in the Bannock Bake-Off during National Indigenous People's Day;
- took part in the drive-thru United Way Breakfast;
- was the guest of honour at the opening of the new offices for les essentielles, the Yukon Francophone Women's Group;
- read to nine daycares and day camp groups during the Commissioner's Summer reading series;
- attended the Pink Tea, organized by Pat Duncan, Yukon Senator;
- attended the first poppy presentation, organized by the Whitehorse Legion;
- handed out new awards: The Story Laureate of Yukon, the Borealis Prize: The Commissioner of Yukon Award for Literary Contribution and the Yukon Service Pin;
- assented to 11 bills in the Legislative Assembly;
- reorganized the second floor at Taylor House and ensured the completion of the wall of photographs of former Commissioners;
- reorganized the books in the office into a library and highlighted new resources every Tuesday on Facebook;
- wrote three columns in French on the events of the Office of the Commissioner for *l'Aurore boréale* (once every two months – November 2020, January 2021, and March 2021);
- signed 148 Orders in Council; and
- signed 7 proclamations.

# **The Honourable Angélique Bernard, Commissioner of Yukon, is currently Honorary Patron or Honorary Member of the following organizations:**

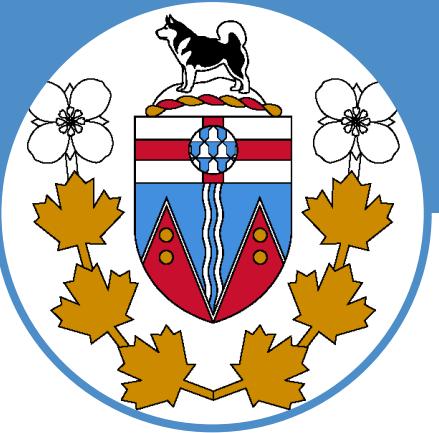
- Arctic Inspiration Prize
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Yukon
- Challenge Disability Resource Group
- Child Development Centre
- Dawson City Museum Society
- Duke of Edinburgh's International Award, BC & Yukon
- ElderActive Recreation Association
- Food Bank Society of Whitehorse
- Friends of the Whitehorse Library
- Girl Guides of Canada - Yukon District
- NGO Hub Steering Committee
- RCMP Veterans' Association - Yukon Division
- Royal Canadian Legion Branch 254 Whitehorse
- Royal Heraldry Society of Canada (BC/Yukon Branch)
- Scouts Yukon
- Special Olympics Yukon
- St. John Society (British Columbia and Yukon)
- The Great Trail
- Yukon Historical and Museums Association
- Yukon Transportation Museum



CSSC Mercier Grade 7 visit at Taylor House  
October 5, 2020



2020 Remembrance Day in Carcross, YT in front of the  
RCMP detachment  
November 11, 2020



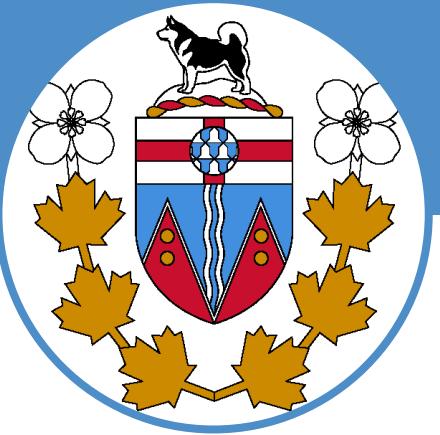
Opening of the new offices for les essentielles  
September 17, 2020



United Way Breakfast at  
Shipyards Park  
September 11, 2020



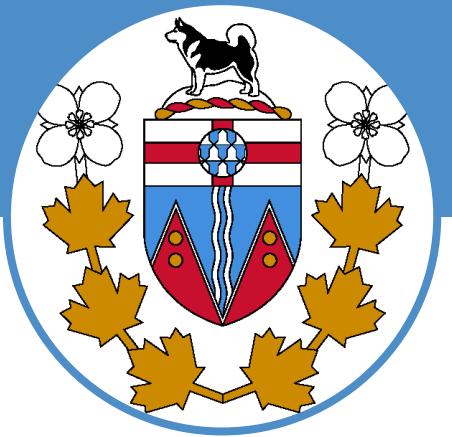
The Bannock Bake Off for National  
Indigenous Peoples Day  
June 21, 2020



Reading to the Angel Falls Montessori Daycare on the  
lawn of Taylor House  
July 23, 2020



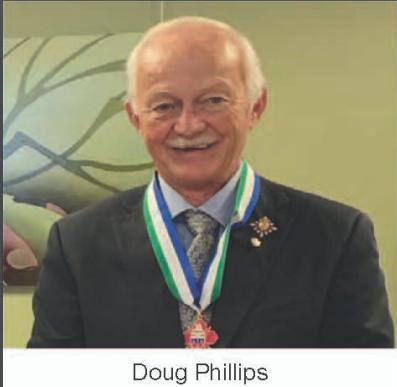
Senator Duncan's Pink Tea at the MacBride Museum  
October 22, 2020



Wall of photographs of former Commissioners and Victoria Faulkner from 1894 to present day.

# 2020

## Order of Yukon Recipients Membres de l'Ordre du Yukon



Doug Phillips



Ron Veale



Agnes Mills



Chancellor/Chancelière  
Angélique Bernard



Sally Macdonald



Keith Byram



Gertie Tom



Jack Cable



Frances Woolsey



Bill Klassen



Bess Cooley

# The Story Laureate of Yukon



Commissioner Bernard and Story Laureate of Yukon Michael Gates  
October 16, 2020



The Story Laureate of Yukon serves as an ambassador for the literary arts, oral history and literacy in the context of Yukon's past, present and future. As an ambassador, the Story Laureate of Yukon participates in the life of the territory and is invited to attend Yukon events to publicly share works. The Story Laureate of Yukon creates work and focuses on cultural, historical and heritage themes that are relevant to the people who live in Yukon.

The term runs from January 1, 2021, to December 31, 2022.

Michael Gates was introduced as the inaugural Story Laureate of Yukon on October 16, 2020. Michael is an accomplished author who has written hundreds of articles about museums and Yukon history as well as published six books on Yukon history.

# The Borealis Prize

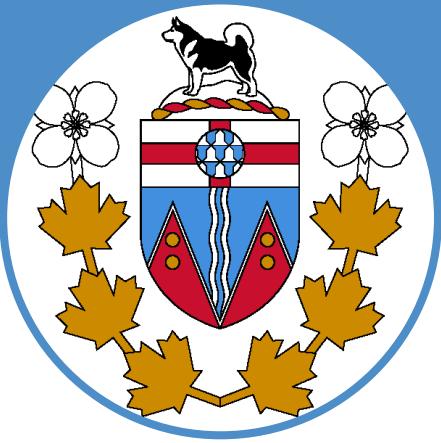


Borealis Prize winners Patti Flather and Leonard Linklater  
with Commissioner Bernard  
October 9, 2020

The Borealis Prize: The Commissioner of Yukon Award for Literary Contribution was established in 2020 to recognize excellence in contributions by the writers, publishers, editors and literary community builders of Yukon. The Prize is administered by the BC and Yukon Book Prizes and awarded annually by the Commissioner of Yukon.

The first ever Borealis Prize: The Commissioner of Yukon Award for Literary Contribution was awarded on September 18, 2020 to Patti Flather and Leonard Linklater for their work in founding Gwaandak Theatre and all their consequent contributions to the Yukon literary community. Both authors have brought to light issues around Indigenous experience, mixed cultures, and social justice. They received their original art piece (Northern Lights Bowl from Lumel Studios) on October 9, 2020.

## The Yukon Service Pin



The Yukon Service Pin was launched in October 2020, to recognize people who have served or are serving in the military or as a first responder. In this case, first responders include paramedics, emergency medical technicians, police officers, firefighters, correction officers, rescuers and other trained members of organizations connected to this type of work, either as a volunteer or as a paid employee. Military service includes all branches of the Canadian military, including the Canadian Rangers.

The pins are distributed by the Office of the Commissioner of Yukon at 412 Main Street, Whitehorse, Yukon.

# **Commissioner of Yukon Annual Report**

Report produced by the Office of the  
Commissioner of Yukon  
June 2021

